after the PEL is issued by the State Government.

एल.पी.जी.संबंधी आर्थिक सहायता

1054.**श्री कपिल सिब्बल**:

श्री राज मोहिन्दर सिंह:

क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि नब्बे के दशक के आरम्भ से एल.पी.जी.पर दी गई आर्थिक सहायता दी राशि में भारी वृद्धि हुई हैं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो 1990-91 में दी गई आर्थिक सहायता राशि कितनी थी और वर्ष 1998-99 में कितनी धनराशि दिए जाने का अनुमान हैं;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि उपरोक्त अवधि के दौरान एल.पी.जी.की सामान उपभोक्ता बिक्री कीमत में भारी वृद्धि हुई हैं;और

(घ) यदि हां,तो वर्ष 1990-91 में यह कीमत कितनी थी तथा 1998-99 में यह कितनी हैं और एल.पी.जी.की खरीद से लेकर सामान्य उपभोक्ताओं तक इसके पहुंचने में होने वाले व्यय में कितनी अनुमानित वृद्धि हुई हैं?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार): (क) से (घ) 1990-91 तथा 1998-99 के दौरान एल.पी.जी.(घरेलू) पर अनुमानित राजसहायता,एल.पी.जी. (घरेलू) का खुदरा बिक्री मूल्य तथा आयातित एल.पी.जी का औसत सी.आई.एफ.मूल्य निम्नवत हैं:-

1990-91		1998-99
अनुमानित राजसहायता	845 करोड़ रूपए	2720 करोड़ रूपए
एल.पी.जी.(घरेलू) का खुदरा बिक्री मूल्य	दिनांक 1.4.90 को दिल्ली में 57.60 रूपए प्रति सिलेंडर	दिनांक 28.2.99 को दिल्ली में 146.00 रूपए प्रति सिलेंडर
आयातित एल.पी.जी का सी.आई.एफ.मूल्य	4863 रूपए प्रति एम.टी	8306 रूपए प्रति एम.टी(1997-98)

Price of Diesel to Industry

1055. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of diesel to the industry i.e. Railways, Truck Operators etc. has been reduced; and

(b) if so, why have the freight rates not been reduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Government announced a comprehensive package to end the oil pool deficit on September 1, 1997. The Government also decided that henceforth the price of HSD would be on import parity basis. Accordingly, the ex-storage point price of HSD has been revised as under:

Effective dates	Ex-storage point price (excluding excise duty etc.) Rs/KL
07.11.97	7918.04
25.12.97	7996.84

01.03.98	7839.24
04.04.98	7645.47
20.05.98	7536.89
09.01.99	6722.37

The retail selling price of HSD has been revised effective midnight of 27th/ 28th Feb., 1999 due to changes in the duties announced in the Union Budget.

Status of Ninth Five Year Plan

1056. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ninth Five Year Plan has been approved by Government;

(b) if so, how the present plan differ from the earlier one; and

(c) what are the reasons for lowering the growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir. After approval by the Government, the Ninth Five Year Plan has also been approved by the National Development Council (NDC) in its 48th meeting held on 19th February, 1999.

(b) and (c) The Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) has taken into account the priorities envisged in the Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan and also the special emphasis on areas included in the Special Action Plans (SAPs). The focus of SAPs are on (a) doubling of food production in 10 years; (b) expansion and improvement of social infrastructure; (c) expansion and improvement of physical infrastructure and financial services; (d) unveiling a national Water Policy and (e) making India a global Information Technology power.

The Ninth Five Year Plan envisages an average target growth rate of 6.5 per cent per annum in GDP as against the target growth rate of 7 per cent indicated in the Approach Paper, approved by the National Development Council in January, 1997. Revision of the growth target was to take account of a slow down in the growth rate of the Indian economy to 5.0 per cent in 1997-98 and the expected growth rate of about 5.8 per cent this year. Decline in export growth, shortfalls in the Government revenues and the changes in the global and domestic economic situation were mainly responsible for lower than targetted growth rate in the first two years in the Plan. An average growth rate of around 7 per cent needs to be realised in the remaining three years to achieve the average GDP'target growth rate of 6.5 per cent during the Ninth Plan period.

Strategy for Deficit Free Funding

1057. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news-items in the Pioneer dated the 14th February, 1999 captioned "Plan Panel for deficit free funding";

(b) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has outlined a strategy to finance the entire Ninth Plan with a 33 per cent growth rate in the public sector outlay of Rs. 8,59,200 crores;

(c) if so, what is the basis for depending on this strategy;

(d) whether any fall back strategy been put in place to off-set unexpected hitches in funding; and

(d) if so, the details of the fall-back strategy of the Planning Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING